

REMARKS

It is respectfully requested that the application be favorably re-considered in view of the foregoing amendments to the claims and the following remarks.

The Claims.

Independent claims 52 and 78 have been amended as the result of a telephone interview between the Examiner and the undersigned attorney on September 22, 2005. In particular, the primary layer of the coating set forth in present claim 52 is more adequately described as being "substantially dry and self-supporting," support for which may be found at page 17, lines 28-29; page 18, lines 14-18; and in Examples 3-18 of the specification. Similarly, the term "film-forming" has been deleted from claim 78 (as well as the claims dependant thereon) to avoid any implication that, as the Examiner asserts, the "primary layer" and "reactive layer" overlying the "porous polyurethane resin substrate" are not substantially dry. In view thereof, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 52-57, 78-71, 102, 104-108, 110 and 111 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, is respectfully requested.

Restriction Requirement.

Inasmuch as agreement was reached with the Examiner for the allowability of instant generic claims 52 and 78 during the aforementioned telephone conference with the undersigned, the restriction requirement set forth in paragraphs 6-7 of the Office Action dated August 11, 2005, is deemed to be moot. Nonetheless, in order to provide a complete response to the Office Action and in the event that no generic claims are finally held to be allowable, applicant elects with traverse, the species compound (2) polyvinyl alcohol/polyvinyl acetate copolymer for prosecution. The claims in the present application that are readable on species (2) are claims 54-57, 80-81 and 110.

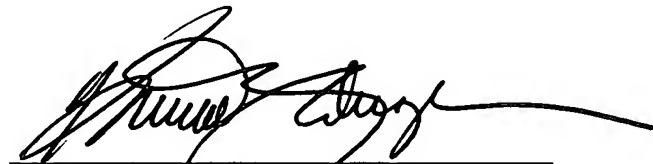
With the indicated allowability of independent generic claims 52 and 78, and in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.141(a), it is respectfully requested that non-elected species claims 58-77, 82-101, 103 and 112, be rejoined with elected claims 52-57, 78-81, 102, 104-108, 110 and 111, and that a formal Notice of Allowance be issued for all of said claims.

The Prior Art Made Of Record.

As to paragraph 9 of the Office Action, Applicant once again acknowledges the citation of the document identified as DD 136589A, and that while it is considered by the Examiner to be pertinent to applicant's disclosure, it is not being relied upon to reject any of the present claims.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully requested that the application be allowed with claims 52-108 and 109-112.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kenneth F. Dusyn', is written over a horizontal line.

Kenneth F. Dusyn
Registration No: 26,158

LAW OFFICES OF KENNETH F. DUSYN
330 MAIN STREET
HARTFORD, CT 06106
Telephone: [860] 246-4600
Fax: [860] 722-9570

Enclosure: Certificate of Mailing